



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

February 3, 2022

Kristi Kucharek, GS-13  
Airspace NEPA Program Manager  
Air National Guard Readiness Center  
3501 Fletcher Avenue,  
Joint Base Andrews, MD 20762

Major Jeffrey Andrieu  
Maryland Air National Guard  
175<sup>th</sup> Wing  
Martin State Air National Guard Base  
2701 Eastern Boulevard,  
Middle River, MD 21220

Dear Major Andrieu and Ms. Kucharek:

We write to you today as a follow-up to our letter regarding the Maryland Air National Guard's plan to establish a Low Military Operations Area (MOA) over portions of North Central Pennsylvania.

Given the public comment period for the establishment of the Low MOA has ended, we respectfully request that you hold public meetings for the benefit of the impacted communities and ensure the proceedings of these meetings are included in the Guard's future decision-making on this proposed action and the development of the final Environmental Assessment.

Between the counties we represent, we continue to receive countless correspondence regarding this issue from numerous stakeholders who deeply value the area you plan to train over. A public meeting can paint a clearer picture of your intent and provide an opportunity to ask questions.

We also respectfully request the completion of a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). As you know, an EIS is required, according to the National Environmental Policy Act, when the proposed action may reach "substantial environmental controversy concerning the significance or nature of the environmental impact."

While we understand the need for real-life training scenarios and remain grateful for the dedication of the Air National Guard, we remain gravely concerned the proposed Low MOA has the potential to significantly diminish quality of life for residents. Additionally, we have reservations over the potential impacts this will have upon the Pennsylvania Wilds, an economic driver for the region, which includes numerous state parks, forests, and wildlife.

There is no question the cumulative impact would be detrimental to the region. We simply are urging more transparency and a public forum where the citizens of North Central Pennsylvania and Southern New York can ask questions and ease their anxieties.

After you review all submitted public comments, we respectfully request you conduct in-person engagement in a public forum and include the proceedings in the final report.

We appreciate your due consideration of our request and eagerly await your response.

Sincerely,



Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



Fred Keller  
Member of Congress



Dan Meuser  
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Tom Wolf, Governor of Pennsylvania  
Captain Ben Hughes, Maryland National Guard Public Affairs  
Captain Travis Mueller, Pennsylvania National Guard Public Affairs